

XXV

TECMUN Jr.

North Atlantic Treaty
Organization

“Cuando pones la proa visionaria hacia una estrella y tiendes el ala hacia tal excelsitud inasible, llevas en ti el resorte misterioso de un ideal. Custódiala; si la dejas apagar no se reenciende jamás. Y si ella muere en ti quedarás inerte; frío. Solo vives por esa partícula de ensueño que se sobrepone a lo real y que te hace sentir vivo”.

José Ingenieros, *El hombre mediocre*, Buenos Aires, 1913.

Delegados, embajadores, jueces, ministros, fiscales y compañeros:

Dentro del cosmos de la modernidad, entre las corrientes de la paz y el conflicto, yacen miles de hombres como tú y como yo, hambrientos de cambio, deleitados con la ficción irrisoria de un mañana distinto. Nuestra realidad es fruto de los sueños de los visionarios de antaño y nuestros ideales son las líquidas y abstractas partículas que cristalizarán la realidad de los hombres del futuro. No es hasta que reflexionamos acerca de la naturaleza de este proceso de transición que valoramos las verdaderas implicaciones de nuestras acciones.

No somos más que individuos aislados entre la masa social, sin embargo, no es esta individualidad lo que genera el cambio, por el contrario, las ideas son la fuerza motriz que marca la senda de las revoluciones; son las ideas aquellas que impulsan la materialización del cambio. No obstante, si demeritásemos el valor de la potencia personal, nos encontraríamos con la nada, pues, no existe revolución que haya sido emprendida sin conciencia individual. Es esta suma de unidades lo que empodera la raza humana y nos aproxima a la evolución perpetua.

TECMUN es el crisol que funde las perspectivas personales en una gran razón colectiva. Es aquella entidad viva que congrega a visionarios aislados en una red de sueños, esperanzas y acciones. Hago un llamado categórico hacia todos ustedes, exigiéndoles que jamás dejen morir sus ideales, pues la decadencia del deseo contrae el desgarramiento del cambio, que conducirá a la muerte de nuestro espíritu y, al cabo, a la muerte perpetua e irreversible de nosotros mismos.

Delegados, nosotros hacemos la diferencia. Vivamos con unidad, conciencia e ideales.

Kevin Zamora González

Secretario General

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Delegados, embajadores, jueces, ministros, fiscales y compañeros:

El lenguaje en México, el tejer redes complejas de ideas, debería ser lugar tanto de acuerdo como de disenso. En un país inundado por el silencio, ¿qué prosigue? Es sencillo: el silencio puede ser chispa y llama. Cuando el eco que este provoca se hace tan intenso que nos ahoga, reaccionamos. A lo largo de la historia, hemos formado un círculo de víctimas y victimarios en México. Desgraciadamente, México suele ser la víctima. Mi México el vencido, al que le duele, el que llora y sangra, pero ni así responde. ¿Es esta razón para desistir de intentar cambiarlo? No. ¿Es esta razón para volverse victimario? Tampoco. Esas son dos grandes lecciones.

Recientemente, tras una serie de cambios estructurales, después de hacer y deshacer durante años, de tirar todo y empezar desde cero, podemos decir que el mexicano es mejor deshaciendo que haciendo. Empero, esto no es algo intrínsecamente malo —en el desorden también hay un orden y un nuevo desorden nos debería guiar a un mejor orden. Esa es la gran peculiaridad de México, o de menos, la que he observado: incluso cuando todo va mal, cuando se está cayendo el país (literal o metafóricamente), intentamos ordenarlo. Vamos, nos organizamos, ayudamos y todo regresa a la normalidad. Sin embargo, este fenómeno no es necesariamente bueno debido a otra gran característica: los mexicanos tendemos a olvidar. Cuando contamos con minutos de paz, no pensamos, ni nos cuestionamos cómo fue que los obtuvimos. Somos hedonistas al por mayor —preferimos simplemente disfrutar del placer que nos brinda el bienestar. Eso no es incorrecto, no importa regocijarte ante algo. El problema reside en solo vivir el momento, sin reflexionar antes el pasado o el futuro. Por eso te propongo, tú que estás ahí (idealmente escuchando, leyendo) usar el lenguaje, tu discurso, como espacio de disenso. Cuestionate tu entorno, el porqué de las cosas. Sí, busca el orden dentro de nuestro sublime desorden. Participa. Lee. Sé. Modifica tu actitud conforme a lo que vayas descubriendo. No obstante, si no lo harás, da espacio a los que sí, porque los que ya nos cansamos de los ciclos en México, de la injusticia, de que todo y nada pase somos más. Ya basta de que el silencio en México duela, hay que regresarle su voz a las víctimas. Tú, yo, nosotros que sí podemos hablar: unámonos en la otredad. Ese dolor que alguien más siente, hazlo tuyo y habla por él, sé por él y lucha por él. *Bajo la lluvia / que me quema la piel / s e r é. En el agua herida: / n o s o t r o s / s e r e m o s.*

Daniela Rivera Guerrero
Subsecretaria de las Agencias Especializadas y Organismos Regionales
XXV TECMUN Jr.

“Destiny is the push of our instincts to the pull of our purpose”

-T.D.

Ambassadors,

Today, we live in a world that needs us. A world full of scarcity, violence, injustice, corruption, unconsciousness and so, the list can continue until we reach a point of regret and shame on ourselves. By the contrary, our people are full of disposition, solidarity, will, determination and lots of different qualities which provoke us one sensation: hope. This feeling makes us see that after all the damage, suffering, intransigence... we are not lost and that be attributed to the persistence of a determinant factor, you. I invite you to think in the power you have, visualize yourself as a figure of change and progress, someone who accounts for the current situation and takes the initiative for the general well being of everyone. Be that person, develop your full potential, create, criticize, be conscious, act always under your values and principles, shape the world and look towards every single person, be someone who can make anything possible and never be afraid of leaving your comfort zone although the path will be challenging but defend yourself with preparation, fortitude and courage.

By this moment, you are about to start a three day inordinate experience called TECMUN. I beg you to go beyond taking a country's position and debating. Comprehend the world issues, understand the different perspectives that a conflict can have, be conscious of the reality farther from our daily lives. Realize the power of your voice and mind. Find a way in which you can use it for molding the future. TECMUN is yours, take advantage from it and become a better person, perhaps smarter or conscious from the daily affairs. But what I would recommend you is to take this opportunity to show everyone but yourself that you can do enormous things, promote the change in favor of peace and progress and demonstrate that you can be this agent of change using the best method to achieving it, dialogue.

Our destiny will be based upon your acts. You have the opportunity of leaving your mark; flourish the seed of your mind for those who can't. Enhance the change of the world starting by you. Rise up your voice, rise up your ideas, and rise up yourself. Remember always that quitting is never the solution of things. Take the initiative, have the courage of standing up and constructing a better reality.

Welcome to TECMUN, an opened door for you, how deep are you willing to enter?

Diego Tapia Quiterio
President of the North Atlantic Treaty Organization
XXV TECMUN Jr.

Outline of the North Atlantic Treaty Organization

The North Atlantic Treaty Organization (further referred as NATO) was created as a result of the North Atlantic Treaty signed in Washington, United States the April 4th from 1949 which firstly incorporated twelve European and American countries. Its objective is to provide an international peace area in the North Atlantic focused in ensuring the twenty eight active members security and guaranteeing their freedom by establishing a political and military alliance. The decisions taken in the committee consultations are dictated to search towards the interests and capabilities of the members, also they are associated with international organizations like the UN with the intention of preserving a diplomatic posture followed to enhance peace, justice and prudence acts in the worldwide community as well as to be supervised in the performing by these.

Topic A

Measures to eradicate Kurdish terrorist groups in Turkey focusing in a possible military NATO intervention

By: Diego Tapia Quiterio and Erick Palafox Prieto

Overview

The cultural, political and social conflict among the Turkish and Kurdish cultures arises since the first part of the nineteenth century with the establishment of the Republic of Turkey in 1923. The contrast between these two has developed a huge wave of social instability, economic losses and violence. Furthermore, the BBC approximates that the number of people killed in these conflict rounds the 55, 000 from both parties including soldiers and civilians. The socio cultural conflict has turned into a warfare which comprehends the Turkey's Government fighting against different Kurdish rebel groups which have auto denominated themselves as an insurgence, these groups seek autonomy from Turkey and more political and cultural rights, however lots of these groups like the Kurdistan Workers Party have become terrorist groups to achieve their demandings. The constant offensives to the Turkey's government have generated a great economic reduction and diminished the quality of life from people near these areas and on top of that, the social feared environment that has turned into a threat to the mentioned country.

The Kurdish ethnic

Kurdish ethnicity is mainly built up by people who are living in the southeast of Turkey, northeast of Syria, north of Iraq of and west of Iran in this mountainous area Kurdistan was located. The religion they have adopted is a branch of Islam called Sunni Muslims, it was embraced when they gave in from an Islamic invasion on the seventh century A.D. Kurds have their own New Year called Nawruz celebrated on March 21st, expressed by a celebration with a series of fireworks, dances, food and specially trying to resolve conflicts among the population that were originated on the previous year of celebration. Kurds have an established patriarchal family, where marriage among close relatives is frequent, in addition, local leaders are chosen by their integrity and abilities of dealing with higher officials. Nowadays this ethnic is conformed by roundly 30 million people.

Kurdistan was previously considered as an independent country from 1920 to 1923, where it was split into Iraq and Turkey. The rupture left one of the biggest turkish ethnicity scattered around the territory, which led into struggle for independence and reunification. However, as in every group, not every Kurd has the same ideology. The Kurdistan Workers Party is a guerilla group whose aim is to achieve their own independence. Nonetheless, their

methods are strongly opposed by other Kurdish members. Some of them do not even want to be an independent state, but only for their current nation to permit their language and culture, considering the fact that their culture is way contrasted with the Turkish, enforces their desire for achieving this.

Rebel Kurdish moves against the government

Throughout the history of the Turkey, the Kurdish minority has expressed its unconformity with the way they are treated and have seeked for better life conditions but specific groups have fell into the extremism and attempted against people for having their demands accomplished. In the other hand, lots of member people of this ethnic like the PKK, simply try to destabilize the government of Turkey and call for rising against it. This unconformity had always been expressed in peaceful means until 1978 where the conflict took up an armed way and has endured till nowadays.

The living condition in Turkey for the Kurds were not quite appropriated, they suffered from lots of things including denigration and discrimination, in 1973, the a group called “Revolutionaries of Kurdistan” focused to create consciousness of the lifestyle they had and looked forward the Kurdian rights. Day by day more people became aware of this and joined their cause (almost all Kurds). This gained strength transformed into rebellions which followed the same purpose. By these moments, the government response was to target groups like this to spy them and know what they were planning. The tension kept growing, in November 27th from 1978 the Kurdistan Workers’ Party (further referred as “PKK”) was created by grouping different rebel groups and joining all the force power they already had and created a defensive plan to the government's targetings to these groups.

Owing to the attempt of coup d’état in 1980 in which rightist and leftist groups fought under a concept from the Cold War, the Republic reduced their attention to the emerged PKK. Meanwhile the leaders of this group focused in enforcing their rebel group enough for declaring officially in 1982 the transformation of the conflict into a warfare against the Turkish government. During this time, the objective was established again and defined for looking up for independence of the Turkish State.

The Kurdistan Workers Party and the insurgency

Convinced of their cause, the PKK started their offensives by heading armed attacks in different cities marking the starting point of the rebellion for the independence of Kurdistan. These initial attacks were lead by Mahsum Korkmaz, the military leader of the Kurdish forces. Day by day the tension kept growing, therefore the eighth president of Turkey Turgut Özal focused to negotiate a cease fire and the peace with this radical group and to consent the Kurds and promulgate laws in their benefit, however he suddenly died of later discovered poisoning leaving unfinished the peace means.

After his death, the follower presidents countered the attacks with more violence and were not interested in reaching peace neither a cessation to the warfare. During the 80's decade the conflict continued razing with lots of life and consequenting people to vacate those areas. By the early 90's, the government officially created a strategy military plan for fight back the PKK's proliferated attacks. This defensive strategy included recuperating villages under the domain of the rebel group and recuperating more field day by day, the implementation of "Village Guards" which were local people which had the mission of stopping by military means the domain of local rural villages and prevent their re entrance in exchange of salaries , for opposing the Kurds also the usage of bombings was used in citizen-evacuated villages. All these allowed the Turkish militia to gain more terrain and to pull back the Kurdian rebel forces to the mountainous zone despite the attacks from the PKK to destabilize the government continued and extremist threats against the population too.

In the following years, the conflict maintained its course till 1999 when a unilateral cease fire. The PKK leader Abdullah Öcalan was exonerated after a long persecution, the coalitions between the Turkey's National Intelligence Organization (MIT) and the United States Central Intelligence Agency (CIA) played a fundamental role in this successful action plan. Despite the momentary peace, the tension between both sides retained and was manifested in manifestations in favor of the Kurds all around the world. The weakened PKK retired Turkey and announced that they would only look towards their objectives by peaceful means from that day on. This party was restructured and firstly changed its name to the Kurdistan Freedom and Democracy Congress (KADEK) for later been dissolved and raised the Kurdistan People's Congress (KONGRA-GEL) for lately in 2005 restored the name to the Kurdistan Workers Party (PKK).

During the ceasefire period peace attempts were lead by the Kurdish rebel groups which were overpassed by the government since the PKK with the mane of KONGRA-GEL maintained performing offensives against the national forces although they were in a minor scale. Nonetheless the Kurds denied this and claimed their actions to pass like a defensive strategy since the national forces had faced other minor rebel groups as the Revolution Party of Kurdistan (PSK) within the conflict and with similar objectives as the PKK. Finally, a new organization had just entered the government by 2002, same which refused and started to take new measures to treat with this groups as imposing restrictions for their culture and language.

The new government worsen the condition for Kurds in Turkey, the new impositions refused all the demands of this rebel groups and also the petitions for peace were denied. Consequently, the PKK opted to return to a state of warfare claiming the denial of peace and constant attacks from the government besides this kept fighting back other smaller Kurdish guerillas which attempted against it (is important to highlight that this guerillas used extremist measures for keeping fighting for their petitions). The Kurdistan Workers Party new tactic included bombings and non direct confrontations since it had lost some of their past force. As the PKK extremist attacks which had already caused lots of damage to several economic sectors and taken the life of lots of innocent people became a real threat to the Republic's stability.

Extremist measures and attacks by Kurdistan rebel groups

As the desperate response to the Turkish forces, the Kurdistan rebel groups opted to resort the usage of different attack techniques and strategies with the appliance of extremist offensives which include major bombings, blockage of public spaces like airports and highways, starting a direct armed confrontation against Turkish forces in certain southern areas and all these resulting a huge wave of death from either civilians and soldiers. The conflict turned its path with this new strategy attack since they had just become a really threat to all Turkey, an example of this was the bombings of Ankara which was lead by the PKK and took 6 lives and extremely damaged 121 people, this was followed by a suicide bombers attacking a military Turkish base (BBC, 2016). Throughout 2004 and 2010, this extremist offensives continued to persist and became more dangerous day by day.

Something it is important to exaltate is the fact that this numerous attacks were not just lead by the Kurdistan Worker's Party (PKK) but also minor groups like the Iranian Kurdish Insurgent Group (PJAK) and the Kurdistan Freedom Hawks (TAK) which were also against the government and used irrational way to demand almost the same things as the PKK. Various minor and major attacks were lead by these groups which joined all the Kurdistan offense to deploy series of bombings and attacks which attempted against civilians, public spaces or the government. As a result from this, the Turkish government and the worldwide community considered the terrorist groups.

Terrorism is defined as the unlawful use of violence and intimidation, especially against civilians, in the pursuit of political aims (Cambridge Dictionary, 2017). Comparing this definition with the mentioned extremist offensives, it can be recognized that these rebel groups have become terrorists. Simply notorious in the Kurdistan Freedom Hawks bombing campaign followed towards their vow of arranging Turkey to be become a hell. The military campaign persisted and was fought back but having a huge repercussion to the republic.

Latest evolution of the conflict

The Turkish government administration which had taken different measures to rejoin both sides by reinforcing the coexistence among them. Recep Tayyip Erdoğan was the prime minister of Turkey from 2003 till 2014 and later on became president, the role he had from presenting different initiatives with the objective of decreasing the tension and promoting peace. Within the multiple projects he had; a public television channel in kurdistan language was opened, candidates with Kurdish ethnic and or ideology were supported in local elections (winning in lots of southern eastern villages and areas), their freedom of expression was impulsed, restoring the opportunity for Kurdish refugees to become Turkish citizens, renaming different zones with Kurdish majority to their original name in this language (which had changed throughout history to Turkish names) and finally called for an armistice with the PKK. The conflict tension disappeared and this lead the Kurdistan Worker's Party to vow a ceasefire in April 2007. The following actions of the turkish government were arresting a huge quantity of Kurds who had participated in the militia as well as to seek to judge to different PKK leaders and accused of terrorism. For this reason the rivalry between both

parties returned to a warfare state, therefore the Kurdistan Worker's Party proceeded to end its ceasefire.

The upcoming years, the intensification from the attacks kept growing since the PKK's force had grown as well allowing the usage of advanced military technology like powerful missiles which were used to attack different provinces, military bases and naval stations. The Kurdistan party renewed its militias against the government and declared they were not opened to negotiate peace neither a ceasefire unless the conflict was solved with dialogue, also established that the not accomplishment of this demand would result the Kurds not to stop until they reached their independence. As the persistence of the extremist rebellion, the Turkish government deployed more programmes to counter this offensives which violence has increasingly affected the republic. Parallely, the PJAK fulfilled a similar role as the PKK in Turkey but in Iran, presenting a called insurgence which only attempted against the government taking with it thousands of lives and a massive destruction besides the economic and social repercussions. By 2011, Turkey had to face different fronts, the southern eastern region dominated by the PKK and the Iraq border since the PJAK had agreed a collision with the rebel groups in Turkey for combating the Turkish government. As a response, the republic forces ensued to strike back these groups by arresting leaders and people involved with these, designing new strategies for the warfare, enforcing their military fronts and recurring to bombings as a last result.

Along with this, the Syrian Civil War played a base role by letting the Kurdistan groups to persist and strengthen. By 2012, the president of Syria, Bashar Al-Assad handed over lands in the north of the country to the former ideological and ethnic ally the Democratic Union Party which supported the PKK and the PJAK on their insurgentes and shared their projects of independence and radicalism for obtaining it. Thus, with the help of the Syrian president, the Kurdish forces gained force power and developed different activities to collide a unique Kurd power which could act in different places, the attacks made by these worsen the situation as this groups had multiple new weapons and equipment which changed the dominance of the government in this places and demonstrated their commitment to achieve their wished independence (lately, the Turkish government accused the Syrian government to provide these military perks); also the Kurds took over the borders in the southern eastern area. Consequently, the Republic's response was to implement harder tactics to end up with

this uncontrolled group and put into the conflict the usage of long range artillery to uproot the militias located in those zones. Implementing this type of technology to the Republic resulted in a quickly weakening to the rebel group and the recuperation of different positions which had been lost to the dominance of the Kurds.

Finally by 2012 the leader of the Kurdistan Workers Party announced their willingness and that along with the Turkish government were conducting a negotiation process for the peace. Despite various events which has retarded the process, the desire of both sides for peace traced the temporary future of the conflict. In 2013 Abdullah Öcalan, a former leader of the PKK, called officially for a ceasefire and demanded Kurds to depart the Turkish territories and calls upon the end of this belic conflict. Subsequently, at the middle of that year all rebels from this group would stop their activities against the Turkish and Iraq's government. However, pacific manifestations by Kurdistan civilians persisted, some of these have been suppressed with pressured water or lagrimogic gas.

The just established peace only could maintain a ceasefire until 2015 because by this year, the Kurdistan militia in Syria blamed the Turkish government to lending the Islamic State facilities to cross the border to take the city of Kobanî, Syria (which was dominated by the Kurds and its invasion represented a great loss for this ethnic groups). Having joined the campaign against the Islamic State, Turkey took the chance to bomb headquarters from the PKK in Iraq, Syria and Turkey. The environment in Turkey returned to a violent state since lots Kurdistan villages and towns were bombed or attacked by the mentioned country for combating the Islamic State, also including residential areas (the Kurdistan ethnic and the Islamic State also kept a rivalry and had constantly confrontations). With all these, the tension between Turkey and the Kurds started to grow and the Kurds opted to renew the warfare against the republic. Throughout the 2015 and so, this rebel group kept attacking the security forces, in 2016 the suppositions of the supplement of weaponry to the Kurds by Russia increased since a Turkish helicopter was taken down by the PKK using Russian-made weapons.

Local and worldwide repercussions

Turkey and the Kurdish ethnic have been in an armed conflict since roundly 1978, a constant warfare for such an extended period resulted a huge decrease in mostly economics means.

Combating the PKK and these Kurdistan rebel groups has resulted into deep loss to different economic sectors and the big cost that represents to maintain a militia in a battlefield. Basically all of the economic sectors in Turkey have been deranged; the first sector which is focused in obtaining raw materials suffered from terrific losses since many of the people which worked in these at the southern eastern area had joined the fight or had to abandon their productive areas because of security matters besides lots of this fields of productions were used as scenario for the armed conflict or simply destroyed during bombings. This also happened with the the second economic sector which refers to industrial processes and refinery was diminished because of material losses and the interrupted possibility of receiving the raw materials to work with. The third sector which stands for services and related was affected mainly in the transporter field as lots of highways and passes were blocked or could not be entered because of the state of warfare and the few possibilities of having this labors done. In what refers to the fourth sector which comprehend tourism and related was one of the most damaged since the alter extremist attacks all over the country provoked that people stopped to see Turkey as the best choice to travel. This conflict has diminished the opportunity of Turkey's global and economic growth, creating lots of material losses because of the armed conflict and its secondary consequences all over the Republic. As a result, the exportations of the country had maintain in a low rage and mainly the areas of southern eastern of the country lowered their life quality and production.

The North Atlantic Treaty Organization involvement

The North Atlantic Treaty in its fifth article establishes a collective defense against threats to the member nations, also is compromised to look upon the well being and peace for Turkey and all the member nations. The Kurdistan Workers Party throughout their extremist actions have became a menace to Turkey's security and economic development; so the Organization has the obligation of seeking over the eradication of these. It is NATO's responsibility to guarantee Turkey and the member nation's security by any necessary means. The problem must be solved and attacked from its bases, the turkish- kurdish conflict need reach a solution by either political or military actions including the intervention from all the organization. Throughout years, NATO has provided support to Turkey and former members, this time the Organization has to safeguard Turkey and work along it for reaching a solution as fast as possible.

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Glossary

A

Aim: Point or direct at a target.

Armistice: Agreement between two groups or countries on a conflict to stop fighting for a period of time

C

Ceasefire: An agreement, usually between two armies, to stop fighting in order to allow discussions about peace.

Coalition: The joining of different political parties or groups for a particular purpose; usually for a limited time.

Counter: To react to something with an opposing opinion or action, or to defend yourself against something.

Coup d'état: Sudden decisive exercise force in politics; especially: the violent overthrow or alteration of an existing government by a small government.

D

Denigrate: To say that someone or something is not good or important.

Deploy: To put military weapons into use or movement

Diminish: To reduced or be reduced in size or importance.

E

Embrace: To include something, often as one of a number of things

Endure: To suffer something difficult, unpleasant, or painful.

Ethnicity: A large group of people who have the same national, racial, or cultural origins, or the state of belonging to such a group

Exaltation: To raise something or someone to a more important position

Exonerate: To show or state that someone or something is not guilty of something.

Extremist: Someone who has an opinion or ideas that seem unreasonable to most people

H

Headquarters: The premises occupied by a military commander.

I

Impose: To establish something as a rule to be obeyed

Insurgency: The violent struggle of a group of people who refuse to accept their government's power

L

Leftist: A supporter of the political left

M

Means: A method or way of doing something

Militia: A military force that operates only some of the time and whose members are not soldiers in a permanent army

N

Nonetheless: Despite what has just been said or done.

P

Patriarchal: Ruled or controlled by men.

R

Radicalism: The belief that there should be a great or extreme social, economical or political change.

Raze: Completely destroy.

Rebellions: violent action organized by a group of people who refuse to accept their government's power and are willing to use force to oppose it

Repercussion: The bad effect of an action or decision

Rightist: A politician who supports the beliefs of the political right

S

Safeguard: To protect something from harm.

Scattered: Covering a wide area.

Seek: To try to find or get something, especially something that is not a physical object.

Sunni: (A member) of the largest Islamic religious group, which follows the teachings only of Mohammed, not those of any of the religious leaders who came after him.

T

Target: Select as an object of attention or attack.

Terrorist: Someone who uses violent action, or threats of violent action, for political purposes

U

Unilateral: Involving only one group or country.

Unlawful: Not acceptable to the law

Uproot: Remove or destroy completely; eradicate.

V

Vacate: Leave a place that one previously occupied.

Vow: A promise or decision to do something

W

Warfare: The activity of fighting a war or conflict.

Weakening: To cause to become less strong, powerful, determined or effective.

Willingness: Quality or state of being prepared to do something.

Guiding Questions

1. How are extremist Kurdistan rebel groups operating in Turkey?
2. How have the extremist Kurdistan rebel groups become through history a threat to the Turkish nation and state?
3. How can NATO and Turkey work along in order to secure the Turkish population from the Kurdistan extremist groups?
4. In which way could NATO intervene for solving this conflict?
5. How can my delegation work within NATO to give a solution to the conflict and obtain a shared benefit?

Topic B

Implications of expanding and defining new parameters for joining the North Atlantic Treaty Organization

What is the North Atlantic Treaty Organization?

The North Atlantic Treaty Organization (further referred as “NATO”) is a political and military alliance which purpose is to assure freedom and security to its members, based on democracy by consulting for cooperation on defence, security problems management and conflict prevention. The decisions of the organization are made by a consensus between all the members and for them to pass, must be approved unanimously. The organization is engaged with the peaceful solution of conflicts, nevertheless it has the military power to handle crisis-management operations under the principle of collective defence established in the article 5 of the Treaty or under The United Nations injunction. The alliance consists of 29 members located; 2 in North America, 7 in Western Europe, 6 in Central Europe, 3 in Northern Europe, 2 in Southern Europe, 8 in Eastern Europe and 1 in Southwestern Asia.

Organization’s background and the Washington Treaty

After the World War II the enmity between the Soviet and the Western Nations since the Russian Revolution reappeared. While the Soviet influence was spreading across the Eastern European countries, the Western Block concerned about the Soviet Union expanding its ideology and imposing authority in all Europe. Therefore the need of a defence alliance arose. In regards Belgium, Luxembourg, the Netherlands, France and the United Kingdom signed the Brussels Treaty in 1948 to strengthen relations between the members while establishing a defence system. This treaty was the basis for the Washington Treaty.

The Washington treaty was signed between the countries of the Brussels Treaty, Denmark, Iceland, Italy, Norway, Portugal, the United States and Canada in 1949. The treaty led to the creation of the North Atlantic Treaty Organization. Engaged members to share risk, responsibility and benefits from collective defence, which would mean that an aggression to one member would mean an attack to all of them. Established that the decisions made by the organization should be unanimous. And that the members should form a community of values for democracy, individual freedom, Rule of Law and human rights.

North Atlantic Treaty Organization Role in history

The creation of the organization aided the Western European nations integration, the overcome of the World War II aftermath, and the economic development of the region. The

main role of the organization during the Cold War was to act as a strong deterrent against Soviet and Warsaw Pact nations aggressions and possible invasions to member states. Although the NATO forces were not involved in military conflicts during this period, they remained aware and prepared.

After the Cold War NATO began to assume a growing role within the international community and participated in the wars of Bosnia and Herzegovina, Kosovo and Georgia. Also helped the African Union to amplify its peacekeeping mission in Darfur. In 1999 NATO expanded its influence in Eastern Europe with the annexation of the former republics of the Warsaw Pact (Hungary, Czech Republic and Poland). After the 11 September 2001 terrorist attacks NATO appealed to the article 5 of the North Atlantic Treaty against the al-Qaida terrorist group and intervened in Afghanistan. After the eradication of the taliban regime, the United Nations Security Council authorised the deployment of the International Security Assistance Force (ISAF) to stabilise the country, from which NATO took control in 2003.

The nowadays Organization

The North Atlantic Treaty Organization has played several roles along history, however, it has pursued to act under the same objective: “safeguarding the Allies freedom and security by political and military means” (NATO, 2017). Whilst new events occur and have possibly turned into a threat to any of the allies, the organization has worked and always being cautious to these since the well being within its members is the objective. By this moment, the Organization is operating in different missions such as restoring peace in Afghanistan and Kosovo, securing the Mediterranean Sea, performing air policing and individually evaluating the status of each of the members in order to detect any growing affair which might threaten the country. Also there are various programs which also are intended to the fulfilment of NATO’s objectives like the Partnership for Peace, Fight Against Terrorism, different coalitions with external alliances and so on.

Methods for annexations to the North Atlantic Treaty Organization

For a country to join NATO, the immovable conditions include being geographically in Europe or in its surroundings, being a democracy and having the willingness and capacity to contribute and work along other countries to achieve and maintain peace in the Atlantic area. In order to join the alliance, the aspirant country must fulfill certain requisites previously

imposed by all the members regarding the country's politics and functioning. In fact, the whole committee in a meeting determines the status of the possible new member and provide feedback to the country. Once having done this, the dialogue among NATO and the candidate country intensifies so that the nation can have the political and military preconditions established by NATO. However, there is no systematic methodology in order to continue the process since the Organization the country is placed under the Membership Action Plan (further referred as "MAP").

Within this plan, the possible future member receives assistance, practical support and is advised in political, economical, defensive, resource, legal aspects and security matters. Since its creation, the MAP, has helped and facilitated the entrance of countries such as Montenegro's in 2017. Being in this programme, facilitates dialogue and communication between both, the country and NATO. Is intended to create a closer channel of interaction in which the alliance can observe and evaluate the process and changes the country is attending. Basically, the programme is focused on helping the country with its preparations so that the Organization under its criteria, decides to invite the aspirant member in a letter signed by the whole committee which will be responded by one of the country with all its commitment in the alliance and future. Nonetheless, activating a MAP to a country can be retarded and the regular feedback and analysis does not follows a constant order, making the process to enter the alliance slow and sometimes without an answer which hinders a quick relation and the entering process.

Past annexations to the Organization

In order to gather 29 members, the alliance has had seven annexations throughout its existence. All based in the tenth article of the North Atlantic Treaty and the willing to cooperate for the peace and followed by different mechanisms, negotiations and requirements. The twelve founding members started the alliance in 1949; Belgium, Canada, Denmark, France, Iceland, Italy, Luxembourg, Netherland, Norway, Portugal, United Kingdom and the United States. By 1952, Greece and Turkey joined in the first enlargement. In 1955, Wester Germany summed in the second enlargement (after the German reunification in 1990 the country maintained in the alliance). Spain entered by the third annexation in 1982. The fourth annexion which is dated in 1999, included Czech

Republic, Hungary and Poland. By 2004, Bulgaria, Estonia Latvia, Lithuania, Romania, Slovakia and Slovenia joined at the fifth round of enlargement. Albania and Croatia entered in 2009 at the sixth annexation. The past June 5th from the current year (2017), Montenegro joined the alliance in its seventh enlargement.

The different annexations to the Organization have represented a unification of the country's forces and will to obtain peace, making it grow and expanding their ideals worldwide. Furthermore, the different geographical positions from the members have enforced the way in which the Atlantic area is submitted into a peaceful environment and the mutual help is more accessible and can be achieved faster. And so, the participation of more countries has provided the organization with different perspectives towards the affairs which have helped to respond in the best way as well as using the appropriated tools for it. Also, it has allowed the alliance to expand its economic limits and capabilities. On the contrary, this growth has made the organization harder to manage and retarded the decision taking time since the controversy and the debate is persistent due to the different points of view, however it is useful to have them for taking the best choice.

North Atlantic Treaty Organization possible enlargement

Throughout all its existence, the alliance has maintained open the invitation for nations within the Atlantic area which follow similar ideals, this, established in the tenth article of the North Atlantic Treaty. Hence, the organization has looked towards strengthening diplomatic relations with different non member countries for either working in collaboration or to persuade them in the mission of peacekeeping. Consequently, the alliance has passed through seven annexations in history for completing its 29 current members. The intention of unifying more countries into NATO's objective still remains and by this moment there are three possible candidates to join the organization; the Republic of Macedonia, Bosnia and Herzegovina and Georgia.

For these mentioned countries to join the Alliance, they should accomplish certain requirements imposed for developing correctly the political and military integration to NATO, moreover the sequenced observation, analysis and evaluation of these; finally, all the current members must agree unanimously the decision. In fact, the member nations impose the criteria for a certain country to join in depending on how does it develops in different

fields like the sociocultural, politics, economy, international affairs, among others. Because of its influence and perks, the entrance to the Organization has become a polemical proposition among the some European non member countries such as Sweden or Finland, however different inner postures for this topic from the non members has put under a constant debate the possibility of enhancing the relationships with NATO for a further entrance to it since they already have been working collectively. Despite the intense dialogue and the specific criteria to follow, the Republic of Macedonia, Bosnia and Herzegovina and Georgia have presented demanding interest in joining the Alliance and have either intensified the dialogue with it or by the moment follow the Membership Action Plan.

Bosnia and Herzegovina and the North Atlantic Treaty Organization

Bosnia and Herzegovina, located in the southeastern Europe, is a country which have stated openly its aspirations of entering the Organization. Both sides have worked together in different occasions, NATO showed support to stabilize and fought in the Bosnia and Herzegovina's side in the "Bosnian War" which is timed from 1992 to 1995, the alliance has given support regarding different areas which go from humanitarian help in natural disasters (2014) to helping and assisting the national forces for the security in the country. Indeed, in Sarajevo there are NATO's headquarters which are intended to support the nation to fulfill its commitment for the Partnership for Peace as well as to provide assistance in logistic matters for security. Also the mentioned country has participated in different NATO's missions like the International Security Assistance Force (ISAF) in Afghanistan fulfilling a vital role in it and has given supported others. By 2012, the country was invited to follow a Membership Action Plan which has not entered into an active status since the conditions have not been totally clarified by the Organization nor totally debated with the corresponding authority of the country; some of them such as the registration of the defence properties have already been accomplished by the nations but still, more dialogue is required between both in order to activate the Membership Action Plan. However, nowadays Bosnia and Herzegovina and NATO interchange dialogue from security matters, fight against terrorism, between others.

The Former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia and the North Atlantic Treaty Organization

The Republic of Macedonia, also located in southeastern Europe, is a country which has a strong relation with NATO, is a former member of the Partnership for Peace since 1995 and has an active Membership Action Plan since 1999. As well, the organization has provided aids regarding security matters in this country, an example of this is the 2001 Insurgency in Macedonia in which an Albanian rebel group raised against the Macedonian government and attacked the security forces; NATO's role in supporting militarily and politically the government helped to reach a ceasefire and prevented more offensives. On the other hand, Macedonia has helped with different affairs like the mission in Afghanistan and worked along with NATO by providing humanitarian assistance and accepting Kosovan refugees as well as supplying troops and logistical help to Kosovo's forces. Thus, the Macedonian Republic accomplished all the requirements and criteria demanded by the Organization and by April from 2008 they had agreed to extend the official invitation to Macedonia until the Hellenic Republic disagreed arguing that the historical Macedonian name dispute (political unconformity for the constitutional name of Macedonia by the Hellenic Republic) was not resolved yet and by protocol the invitation will not be delivered until this is solved. The negotiation by the aforementioned country to the Republic of Macedonia has turned into a controversial topic since this strife has been treated by the involved countries but the Hellenic position has taken radical movements like an economic blockage because of this. Despite this, the Republic of Macedonia has worked with the Organization and has maintained great diplomatic relations accompanied by collaborative work. In 2008 a poll to the population reflected that the 82.5% of the citizens are against changing the constitutional name in order to joining NATO, nevertheless, being a member of the alliance has turned into a priority for this country.

Georgia and the North Atlantic Treaty Organization

Georgia, located in between Western Asia and Eastern Europe, since its independence in 1991 from the Soviet Union has presented certain interest in the Organization. Through the history, this country has related with NATO and is a member of the alliance's Partnership for Peace in 1994 and cooperated in missions in Kosovo and Afghanistan. Mostly, this country has worked and assisting by lending facilities to the Organization for fulfilling its commitment in fighting maritime terrorism in the Mediterranean Sea. Moreover, the alliance assisted Georgia in the 2008 Georgia-Russia conflict and mainly has sought towards the

country's well being and sovereignty likewise the maintenance of its international borders which have been overpassed repeatedly by Russia. Regarding Georgian politics, the Organization has conversed and pointed out areas of opportunity and improvement with the government (same which had been followed and denoted huge enhancement) about different affairs such as education, cyber defense, civil security, between others. The alliance in Georgia's security matters has provided the country the tools for enforcing its capability of auto defending and currently it is under evaluation since both sides have declared their interest in the Membership Action Plan for this nation.

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Glossary

A

Assist: To take action to help someone or support something.

Alliance: A group of countries, political parties, or people who have agreed to work together because of shared interests or aims.

Annexations: The action of joining someone something, whether it's territory, or people.

Affairs: Anything done, or to be done. Matter of commercial or public interest.

C

Citizen: A person who is a member of a particular country and who has rights because of being born there or because of being given rights, or a person who lives in a particular town or city.

Commitment: A willingness to give your time and energy to something that you believe in, or a promise or firm decision to do something.

Consensus: A generally accepted opinion or decision among a group of people

E

Enhancement: To improve the quality, amount, or strength of something.

Enmity: A feeling of hate.

Enlargement: To become larger or bigger.

F

Furthermore: In addition to what precedes.

Fulfill: To achieve or realize, bring to reality, to carry out as it was required, pledge, or expected.

H

Headquarters: The main offices or the mutual point.

L

Likewise: In the same way or manner, similarly.

M

Maritime: Connected with human activity at sea.

Membership: The state of belonging to an organization, or an agreement by which someone joins an organization.

MAP (Membership Action Plan): The Membership Action Plan (MAP) is a NATO programme of advice, assistance and practical support tailored to the individual needs of countries wishing to join the Alliance. Participation in the MAP does not prejudice any decision by the Alliance on future membership. Current participants are Bosnia and Herzegovina and the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia.

Moreover: To add information that supports or complements previous information.

N

Nevertheless: Despite what has just been said or referred to.

P

Partnership: An agreement between organizations, people, etc. to work together.

Precondition: Something that must happen or be true before it is possible for something else to happen.

R

Reunification: The action of getting together again.

S

Sovereignty: The power of a country to control its own government.

Strengthening: The action of making something stronger.

T

Throughout: In or to every part of.

U

Unanimous: If a group of people are unanimous, they all agree about one particular matter or vote the same way, and if a decision or judgment is unanimous, it is formed or supported by everyone in a group.

W

Worldwide: All around the world.

Guiding Questions

1. Which would be the implications of a NATO expansion?
2. Is NATO available to accept all the current aspirants?
3. What would represent an annexation to the organization?
4. Is my delegation favored to cooperate with the current aspirant countries within NATO?
5. Are the current joining policies for joining NATO effective and concrete?
6. Can the current aspirant countries represent a significant role for the Organization structure or operation methodology?